Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

DEPT OF THE TREASURY

GOVGUAM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO COMUSSAGE 7AF

CINCPAC

COMDT COAST GUARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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COAST GUARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: MAY 19 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

IN ADDRESS TO U PENN GRADUATES 5/18, PRES SAID PROUD OF SERVICEMEN WHO RESCUED MAYAGUEZ, CREW. SPEECH RECEIVED WITH CHEERS, MUCH APPLAUSE, FEW BOOS (JABLOW/HURST, PHINQ). CITING MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT AS PROOF, FORD TOLD GRADS US NATL WILL "STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE" TODAY (JACKMAN, UNCLASSIFIED

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NYDN). IN FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE RESCUE, PRES WON APPLAUSE WHEN BRIEFLY ALLUDED TO CRISIS (KILPATRICK, WP). CSM'S SPERLING SEES FORD TRYING BUILD UPON MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT MOMENTUM IN SPEECH THAT SEEMED PART OF PRES'

EFFORT SET NATION'S COURSE IN POST-VN ERA BY EMPHASIZING OPPORTUNITIES AT HOME, ABROAD. TALKS CAME AS BACKDROP AGAINST MAYAGUEZ UPLIFT, CONTINUING APPREHENSION AMONG US ALLIES ABOUT MEANING FALL OF VN, CAMBODIA, ANTI-US ACTIONS IN LAOS, AND CONTROVERSY ON TACTICS USED IN RESCUE.

AT CHICAGO RESTAURANT CONVENTION, EX-NY MAYOR LINDSEY SAID MAYAGUEZ RESCUE WAS RISKY, DANGEROUS OPERATION, THOUGHT PRES LUCKY "SHOW OF MUSCLE" WORKED OUT WAY IT DID AND GAVE SOME PEOPLE "FLICKER OF PRIDE." SEN CURTIS, AT

SAME FORUM, STATED PRES' ACTION BROUGHT HOPE TO FREE NATIONS, MAJORITY IN US; SEN TUNNEY NOT CRITICAL OF FORD'S RESCUE, BUT "NOT ENTHUSIASTIC, EITHER." ADDED THAT HE WANTS ATTY GENL BEGIN DEPORTING VIET REFUGEES WHO ARE CRIMINALS, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS REPRESSION, TO "PARTS OF THE WORLD THAT WILL TAKE THEM" (RANDOLPH, CHITRIB)

MAYAGUEZ RESCUE TOLL 5 KILLED, 16 MISSING, 70-80 HURT, ACCORDING SECDEF (NYT; SUN; PHINQ; NYDN). ON ABC/TV "ISSUES AND ANSWERS" SUNDAY, SCHLESINGER SHARPLY RAISED CASUALTY FIGURES FOR RESCUE (WILSON, WP). MAYAGUEZ CAPTAIN SAYS MARINES HIT WRONG ISLAND SINCE CREW 25 MILES AWAY (NYDN; AP NYT, CHITRIB). DOD CONFIRMS THAT AT TIME KOH TANG ASSAULTED, NO FIRM INFO ON CREW'S LOCATION (AP, NYT). US CONSIDERED USING B-52S AGAINST CAMBODIAN MAINLAND AFTER MAYAGUEZ SEIZURE (GELB, NYT). MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT HEATS UP TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT DEBATE. CAMBODIANS CLAIM 12 MILES; SHIP WAS GRABBED ABOUT 6-1/2 MILES FROM ISLAND CLAIMED BY CAMBODIA. US RECOGNIZES ONLY 3 MILES FOR BOTH MIL, COMMERCIAL PURPOSES. INTL LAW PERMITS SHIPS "VIOLATE" TERRITORIAL WATERS WHEN IN "INNOCENT PASSAGE" (ZELNICK, CSM).

USG ASSUMED INSURANCE COMPANIES WOULD WARN SHIPS STEER CLEAR OF CAMBODIAN COAST AFTER INCIDENTS INVOLVING PANAMANIAN, SK FREIGHTERS, SO DID NOT ISSUE OFFICIAL WARNING, ACCORDING SECSTATE. ADDED STILL NOT CERTAIN UNCLASSIFIED

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WHETHER MAYAGUEZ SEIZURE MIGHT HAVE BEEN "ISOLATED ACT OF A LOCAL COMMANDER." SWEDISH FREIGHTER FIRED UPON IN GULF OF SIAM 5/14(SKARTVEDT, JOC). MAYAGUEZ SKIPPER IN SINGAPORE SHOWS NOTE DICTATED TO HIM BY CAMBODIAN TRANSLATOR 5/15 BEFORE CREW FREED WHICH, IN GARBLED LANGUAGE, SAID CAMBODIAN PEOPLE DON'T WANT WAR; NO HARM DONE CREW (AP. NYDN).

CAMBODIA CONGRATULATES SELF ON "SATISFACTORY VICTORY" OVER US TASK FORCE IN MAYAGUEZ RESCUE. PP RADIO CLAIMS 30 US CASUALTIES, 5 COPTERS DOWNED (AP, CHITRIB). SIHANOUK EXPRESSES TOTAL SUPPORT CAMBODIAN POSITION IN MAYAGUEZ SEIZURE AND WAY "ARCH CRIMINAL AMERICAN AGGRESSORS" DEALT WITH. STATEMENT MADE AS PRINCE DEPARTED FOR NK (AFP, NYT;

AP, SUN, CHITRIB) AT INVITATION KIM IL SUNG (WP). KYODO QUOTES SIHANOUK THAT HE WILL NOT RETURN PP UNTIL CAPITAL REHABILITATED (WP). KHIEU SAMPHAN PRESIDED OVER PP RALLY CELEBRATING VC VICTORY IN SVN (WP; REUTER, NYT).FIRST MENTION SAMPHAN IN ALMOST 2 WKS, TENDING DISCOUNT RUMORS HE HAD BEEN JAILED (WP). NO INDICATIONS SIHANOUK WOULD BE GIVEN ANY REAL POWER BY COMMUNIST GOVT (UPI, NYDN).

US BARS EXPORTS TO, IMPORTS FROM CAMBODIA, SVN (WSJ), EX-

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CEPT FOR SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS (JOC).

AMCITS HELD IN LAOS SEND WORD ALL WELL IN FIRST MESSAGE FROM SAVANNAKHET IN 36 HRS. SOUVANNA AWAITS REPORT FROM DEL SENT TO SCENE. STUDENTS ISSUED BROAD LIST DEMANDS IN-CLUDING END USAID PROGRAM IN SAVANNAKHET (NYT). DOZEN AMERICANS, SEVERAL OTHER FOREIGNERS IN SAVANNAKHET SEND 2 RADIO MESSAGES, SAY ALL CONFINED TO HOUSES (NYDN). OFFICIALS OF JOINT COMMITTEE SET UP TO IMPLEMENT C-F ARE IN TOWN TRYING NEGOTIATE CAPTIVES' RELEASE (AP, PHINQ). STUDENTS SAY WILL NOT RELEASE FOREIGNERS UNTIL GOVT AGREES NEUTRALIZE 3 MEKONG PROVS, DISBAND US AGENCIES, RESTRICT NUMBER AMERICANS IN LAOS, AMONG OTHER DEMANDS. AMCITS RADIOED ASKING EMBASSY TRY PRESSURE COALITION SEND HIGHRANKING OFFICIALS TO TALK WITH STUDENTS; INTERIOR MINISTER AND DEPUTY SCHEDULED GO 2 DAYS AGO, BUT STILL IN VIENTIANE FOR "UNEXPLAINED UNCLASSIFIED

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REASONS" (AP, WP, SUN).

VIENTIANE QUIET POLITICALLY AS LAOTIANS CELEBRATE ANNUAL FERTILITY FESTIVAL (AP WP, SUN). PL INJECTS AUSTERITY INTO EASYGOING LAOTIAN LIFE, ACCOACCORDING ANDELMAN (NYT) ILLUSTRATING POINT WITH SERIES VIGNETTES THAT INDICATE LIFE BECOMING MORE REGULATED, ECONOMY AND PRICES MAJOR PROBLEM; SAYS MERCHANTS FEAR MOST PRIVATE BUSINESSES WILL FADE AND THERE IS WHERE CHANGE LIKELY BECOME APPARENT, WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DECLARING POLICY OF "LAOIZATION" OF GRADE EACH YEAR.

LAT'S MCARTHUR (WP) FROM HK TELLS OF CLOAK-AND-DAGGER AIR WAR BETWEEN US SPY FLIGHTS OVER NVN AND SOVIET-SUPPLIED AA MISSILES, IN APPARENT ATTEMPT BY SR-71S TO TEMPT NVN INTO DISCLOSING MISSILE LOCATIONS.

ABRUPT US EVACUATION FROM SVN LEFT BEHIND ABOUT 24 AMCITS, 150 S KOREANS, AND 200 FILIPINOS WHO WANTED FLEE, ACCORDING INTL RELIEF AGENCY (AP, NYDN; PHINQ). NY TRUCK DRIVER WHO WAS LEFT BEHIND CONTINUED SEARCH FOR FIANCEE (AP, NYT). RETD ARMY SGT FIGHTS US PRESSURE, STAYS IN

SAIGON (RODILL, CHITRIB). BANK AMERICAN SAYS LEFT ONLY 40 DOLS IN SAIGON VAULT (MALCOLM, NYT). OSKROBA (CHITRIB) RECORDS IMAGES OF VN, NOW GONE, THAT HE KNEW AS GI.

NEW PRC AMB TO SAIGON MEETS WITH PRG LEADERS IN
"WARM AND FINE FRIENDLY SESSION" (AFP, NYT). "NEWSWEEK"
SAYS COMMUNIST MIL FORCES FACE ARVN BANDS THAT REFUSE
SURRENDER, WAYLAY TRUCK CONVOYS IN HIGHLANDS, DELTA
IN NEW GUERRILLA WAG (NYT). SVN FONMIN MRS BINH BRIEFS

ENVOYS CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND ROMANIA. PRG ORDERS AIRPORT WORKERS RETURN TO JOBS SO INTL FLIGHTS CAN RESUME (WP). PRES HUONG, WHO SUCCEEDED THIEU, LEADS QUIET LIFE IN SAIGON (AP, NYT). MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S WOOLLACOTT IN SAIGON (PHINQ) REPORTS MOST SVN FAMILIES SPLIT IN LOYALTIES, THOSE WITH STRONG PRG CONNECTIONS RISING IN IMPORTANCE.

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NEARLY 200 VIET REFUGEES FLOWN FROM US TO CANADA (AP NYDN, PHINQ). SWEDES GRANT TEMPORARY VISAS TO 22 OF 27 SVN REFUGEES PICKED UP 2 WKS AGO BY SWEDISH FREIGHTER; REMAINING 5 GIVEN VISAS FOR CANADA (WP). NY STATE OFFICIALS SAY VIET REFUGEES WHO SETTLE THERE ELIGIBLE FOR 30-DAY EMERGENCY AID (ROBERTS, NYDN). RED TAPE SNARLS REFUGEE EXITS FROM CAMPS THOUGH RULES EASED. UNCERTAINTY NOW SETS IN AMONG MANY (WINDER, CSM).

2. JAPAN

PRAVDA SUNDAY EDIT ACCUSED JSP DELEGATION OF CAPITULATING IN "SURPRISINGLY RAPID MANNER" TO PRC DEMANDS FOR INCLUSION ANTI-SOVIET HEGEMONY CLAUSE IN JOINT STATMENT DURING RECENT PEKING VISIT (UPI, NYT).

MITI KOMOTO CLOSED WPC TOKYO FRIDAY WITH APPEAL FOR EARLY OPENING OIL PRODUCER-CONSUMER CONFERENCE, IN VIEW "COMMON DESIRE" OF BOTH SPEEDILY TO OVERCOME ECONOMIC, SOCIAL CONFUSION CAUSED BY 1973 OIL CRISIS (JOC. TOKYO).

WSJ NOTES JAPAN-CHINA TRADE CONTINUES "SOAR," CITES JETRO REPORT 1974 TRADE UP 63 PERCENT OVER 1973, WITH JAPAN RECORDING 700 MILLION DOL SURPLUS.

JOC'S CULLISON IN TOKYO CITES MOF REPORT FRIDAY JAPAN SUFFERED 420 MILLION DOL BOP DEFICIT APRIL, FIRST IN THREE MONTHS. ALSO CITES YAMICHI SECURITIES REPORT THAT PRIVATE, OFFICIAL JAPANESE ECONOMISTS BELIEVE NATION WILL AVERAGE 6 PERCENT GROWTH RATE THROUGH 1970S.

NYT'S HALLORAN IN TOKYO REPORTS MET PLANS 11 PERFORMANCES IN JAPAN MAY-JUNE, ON ONLY SECOND OVERSEAS TOUR MODERN TIMES, AT PRICES RANGING 25-55 DOLS. WON'T PERFORM "BUTTERFLY" BECAUSE JAPANESE PROMOTER SAID IDEA IS "TO BE REALLY WESTERN."

JOC 12-PAGE SPECIAL SECTION ON FLORIDA WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE (MAY 21-22) HAS FULL PAGE AD BY ECON DEVELOPMENT DEPT ON FLORIDA MARKET IN FIVE LANGUAGES, INCLUDING UNCLASSIFIED

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JAPANESE.

3. KOREA

SECDEF ON ABC/TV "ISSUES AND ANSWERS" SUNDAY TOOK HARD LINE, SAID GRADUAL APPLICATION US MIL POWER AS IN VN WOULD NOT BE REPEATED IF NK STARTED WAR. SOUNDED SIMILAR WARNING IN US NEWS INTERVIEW, RELEASED SUNDAY (WILSON, WP). PREDICTED US WOULD FOLLOW "BOLD, NO-NONSENSE" POLICY TOWARD DIRECT AGGRESSION IN POST-VN ERA, AND US COMMITMENTS TO SK, JAPAN WOULD BE PERCEIVED AS "SOMETHING NO ONE WOULD CHALLENGE" (UPI, CHITRIB; CSM; NYT SPECIAL).

WSJ (PITTSBURGH) NOTES GULF HAS WARM RELATIONS WITH ROKG, AND OBSERVERS DO NOT EXPECT SK NATIONALIZE FIRM'S INVESTMENTS, MOST OF WHICH ALREADY 50-PERCENT GOVT-OWNED.

GM SPOKESMAN SAYS FIRM GAVE MONEY TO SK NATL DEFENSE FUND, WHICH NOT "POLITICAL ACTIVITY"; NOTES GM WORLDWIDE OBSERVES LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF COUNTRIES IN WHICH OPERATES. GM 50 PERCENT OWNER OF GM KOREA (WSJ, DETROIT).

NYT'S HALLORAN IN TOKYO SAYS TOTALITY OF EXTENSIVE POLITICAL APPARATUS, AND MONEY FROM SK, US, JAPANESE AND PERHAPS OTHER FOREIGN SOURCES WON PARK ELECTION 1971; GULF CONTRIBUTION NOT AS DECISIVE AS STATED BY GULF'S DORSEY TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE. CITES US DIPLOMATS THAT OUTRIGHT VOTE-BUYING RARE; INSTEAD, MONEY SPENT ON LOCAL PORK-BARREL PROJECTS. ALSO CITES MOFA REPORT, EXISTENCE OF WHICH CONFIRMED FM MIYAZAWA, THAT 10 JAPANESE, 8 US AND 7 WGERMANS, OTHER FIRMS PUT MONEY INTO SK POLITICS.

WSJ'S LANDAUER/BACON IN WASHINGTON CITE DORSEY TESTIMONY FRIDAY THAT HE THOUGHT POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN KOREA "LEGAL AT THE TIME." GAVE 1 MILLION DOLS TO DRP 1966 ON DEMAND BY "HIGH PARTY OFFICIALS"; PRESSURE FOR FUNDS "INTENSIFIED CONSIDERABLY" BEFORE 1971 PRES ELECTION, AND S.K. KIM DEMANDED 10 MILLION DOLS, THAT FIRM TRIMMED TO 3 MILLION AFTER "HEATED DISCUSSION."

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4. THAILAND

MASTERS DELIVERS US NOTE TO RTG MONDAY, EXPRESSING REGRET FOR USE OF THAI BASES TO RESCUE MAYAGUEZ CREW. NOTE

STATES UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED TO RECENT EVENTS "ARE NOT GOING TO BE REPEATED" (AP, WP).

DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE AT AMEMBASSY SUNDAY FOR SECOND DAY. STUDENT PROTESTERS SENTENCE PRES, SECSTATE TO DEATH IN MOCK TRIAL, BURN THEM IN EFFIGY (UPI, PHINQ). RIP AMERICAN EAGLE SEAL OFF GATE, REPLACE WITH CARTOON INSCRIBED "BANDIT'S HIDEAWAY." 2,000 PROTESTERS BEGIN DISPERSE WHEN HEAR CHATICHAI GAVE US DEADLINE TO MAKE FORMAL APOLOGY BY 6;AM, EDT TUESDAY. THAI PRESS REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS AT AMCONSUL, SONGKHLA, 800 MILES S BANGKOK (AP, NYDN, CHITRIB).

BROWNE (NYT) CITES KUKRIT TELLING PRESS RECALLED AMBASSADOR FOR CONSTULTATIONS BECAUSE US VIOLATED THAI SOVEREIGNTY.

SOUTHERLAND (CSM) SAYS RTG DIVIDED ON QUESTION OF US TROOPS, WITH MFA SOME OTHER ELEMENTS PUSHING FOR COMPLETE WITH-DRAWAL, BUT THAI MILITARY IN FAVOR CONTINUED US PRESENCE AND MAP (USIA WIRELESS FILE).

5. MALAYSIA

TWO POLICEMEN DIED IN SEPARATE SHOOTINGS BY COMMUNIST GUNMEN, ACCORDING POLICE SUNDAY, ONE IN KL. DUSK-TO-DAWN CURFEW IMPOSED WHILE POLICE CONDUCT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH (REUTER, CHITRIB).

6. ASEAN

IN MANILA, ROMULO SAYS NEW INDOCHINA COMMUNIST GOVTS HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO PROPOSALS THEY JOIN ASEAN (WP).

LAT'S TUOHY IN KL (5/16) SAYS FMS APPROVED CREATION NEUTRAL ZONE, AND TREATY OF AMITY, TO RESOLVE INTRA-ASEAN DISPUTES. ALSO APPROVED ASEAN SUMMIT IN PRINCIPLE, UNCLASSIFIED

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BUT LEFT TO HEADS OF STATE DECISION WHETHER, AND WHEN SHOULD BE HELD.

7. SINGAPORE

US PRESENCE STILL DESIRED IN NON-COMMUNIST PART SEA, BUT AS INVESTOR RATHER THAN IN MILITARY FORM, ACCORDING FOO KOK SWEE, HEAD OF WALTER HELLER INTL SINGAPORE SUBSIDIARY (CHITRIB).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

8. INDOCHINA

FOR NYT (5/17), ONE LESSON OF MAYAGUEZ AFFAIR IS NEEDED REMEDY FOR US DIFFICULTY IN COMMUNICATING WITH UNFAMILIAR, UNFRIENDLY SVN, CAMBODIA GOVTS. SUGGESTS US RENEW AT LEAST TOKEN REPRESENTATION IN SVN, AND FAVORS CONGRESSIONAL EXAMINATION OF CAMBODIAN CHARGE MAYAGUEZ ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE -- THOUGH SEEMS UNLIKELY. NYT'S SULZBERGER, IN PARIS (5/17), FINDS THAT OVERNIGHT PRES FORD IN ACTING ON MAYAGUEZ HAS DEALT BLOW TO "FLABBY AMERICA" IMAGE IN MINDS OF EUROPEAN ALLIES. IN NYT (5/17), GEN. WESTMORELAND SAYS ALL SEGMENTS OF US MUST SHARE BLAME FOR VN DEBACLE AND SHOULD ENGAGE IN SELF-EXAMINATION (ALL IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

EVANS/NOVAK CONTEND DOD, IN DELIBERATIONS ABOUT MAYAGUEZ, IS NOW MORE CONSCIOUS OF POLITICAL BACKLASH THAN DOS, CIA COUNTERPARTS ADVISED PRES FORD USE LESS FORCE THAN FINALLY TAKEN TO RECOVER SHIP. FORD OPTED FOR MORE MIL FORCE THAN REQUIREED IN ORDER SIGNAL NK AGAINST ATTACK ON SEOUL. IN LETTER TO WP ON US MAYAGUEZ ACTION (THREE FAVORING, SEVEN OPPOSED), LIN NEUMANN (CENTER FOR STUDY OF POWER AND PEACE) DEPLORES CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT OF FORD ACTION, MAINTAINS NO EVIDENCE SHIP'S CREW HARMED OR THAT ISSUE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN RESOLVED DIPLOMATICALLY (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

YOST (SUN) ADVISES, AFTER VN, IMPORTANT THAT US DETERMINE "DEFENSE PERIMETER," UNEQUIVICALLY CONFIRM COMMITMENTS MADE BY CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS -- JAPAN, SK, PHILS, UNCLASSIFIED

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AUSTRALIA/NZ, OAS, NATO; BUT ANOMALOUS, AWKWARD TO CLAIM ROC CONSTITUTES ESSENTIAL PART OF PERIMETER. GARRY WILLS (SUN 5/17) SAYS VN WILL CLEARLY BE SEEN IN HISTORICAL LIGHT AS ONE EPISODE IN RECEDING OF COLONIALISM; WE STEPPED IN FRONT OF WAVE, BADE IT STOP, IT DID NOT LISTEN (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

STROUT (CSM) STATES MAYAGUEZ AFFAIR PROVES WH STILL DOM-INANT OVER CONGRESS IN FOR POL. NOTES BOOST IN US MORALE AND POPULARITY OF FORD, BUT QUESTIONS ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO 1973 WAR POWERS RESOLUTION. ROWAN (WSTAR 5/16) DEFENDS FORD ACTION AS NECESSARY DEMONSTRA-TION OF POWER IN WAKE OF WEAKENED US POSITION (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

FRITCHEY IN WP DEFENDS PUBLIC ANGER ON VIET REFUGEE QUESTION AS JUSTIFIED AND NATURAL. SUGGESTS "GRIN AND

BEAR IT" ATTITUDE ONLY CHOICE OPEN TO US (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

NYT (5/18) CONCLUDES IN MAYAGUEZ EPISODE, ON BALANCE, RISKS PROVED BOTH WORTH TAKING, GAINS OUTWEIGHED LOSSES; BUT EVENT NO OCCASION FOR JINGOISTIC EXULTATION; RATHER, IS STERN REMINDER OF HEAVY BURDEN USG BEARS IN EXERCISE ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. NYT'S RESTON (5/18) SEES PRES FORD MUCH STRONGER ON CAPITOL HILL AFTER MAYAGUEZ RESCUE, WITH CONGRESS PROBABLY MORE RESPONSIVE TO HIS LEADERSHIP ELSEWHERE IN COMING MONTHS; US CREDIBILITY DOES NOT DEPEND ON DEFEATING CAMBODIANS BUT IN DEFINING FUTURE PROBLEMS, COMING UP WITH IMAGINATIVE ANSWERS. SULZBERGER (NYT 5/18), IN PARIS, REPORTS EUROPEANS NEVER WORRIED SO MUCH BECAUSE OF US INDOCHINA DISASTER AS ABOUT AMERICAN RESOLUTION, CLARITY OF VISION; ALMIGHTY DOLLAR'S DEPRESSION MORE SYMBOLIC THERE THAN LOWERING OF STARS AND STRIPES IN PP, SAIGON (ALL IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

VON HOFFMAN (WP) JEERS AT MAYAGUEZ RECOVERY FIGHT AS FIRST WAR OF PSYCHO-MOTOR REFLEX; WE SHOWED PATIENCE, RESTRAINING, PURSUING PEACE 36 LONG HOURS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). KRAFT (WP 5/18) SEES AMONG LESSONS FROM MAYAGUEZ EPISODE; UTILITY OF HAVING WIDE RANGE MIL UNCLASSIFIED

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OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO PRES; UNRELIABILITY OF INTELLIGENCE FILTERED THROUGH WAR FOG; CITING THAI PERFORMANCE, SUGGESTS NATIONS WORTH US COMMITMENTS ARE THOSE WITH GUTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE SUCH PUBLICLY (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

TERHORST (NYDN) SAYS FORD CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE INTELLIGENCE FAILURE TO MAKE KNOWN EARLIER CAMBODIAN SEIZURE OF PANAMANIAN, SK VESSELS--AND LIKELIHOOD FUTURE FAILURE COULD LEAD TO GREATER WAR RISK.

NYT'S LEWIS FEELS US ACTION AGAINST CAMBODIA WAS FOLLY, REFLECTING NO GENERAL PRINCIPLE OF LAW, DIPLOMACY OR MORALS WE WOULD REALLY BE PREPARED FOLLOW IN OTHER CASES (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

IN LIGHT MAYAGUEZ VENTURE AND RECENT SOVIET NAVAL EXERCISES, CSM SUGGESTS US NEEDS STRONG NAVY; BUT AGAINST BACKGROUND OF STRENGTH, CAUSE OF PEACE SERVED BY EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES NAVAL RESTRAINT. CSM EXCERPTS ALEXANDER WOODSIDE SPEECH MAINTAINING VERY UNLIKELY COMMUNISTS IN VN WILL OVERCOME ANCIENT VIET HISTORICAL PASSIONS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

IN LAT'S VIEW (5/16), PRES HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT RESCUE MAYAGUEZ AND CREW WHEN DIPLOMATIC AVENUES BROUGHT NO RESPONSE. LAT'S ELEGANT (5/16) CONTRASTS THAI REACTION TO MAYAGUEZ RESCUE MANEUVERS WITH LEE KWAN YEW'S ESPOUSAL STRONG US PRESENCE IN ASIA. SUGGESTS LEE OFFER USAF, US NAVY BASES (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

WSTAR (5/16) CONSIDERS US STRONG, PRODUCTIVE RESPONSE TO MAYAGUEZ'S SEIZURE WELCOME OFFSET TO IMAGE FUTILITY CREATED BY INDOCHINA REVERSES (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

GLOBE HOPES SENATE'S FRIDAY APPROVAL OF REFUGEE RELIEF PROGRAM FUNDS IS ACCURATE INDICATION HOW AMERICAN PEOPLE NOW FEEL ABOUT HELPING VIET REFUGEES.

9. JAPAN

OBERDORFER (WP) EXPLAINS STUMBLING BLOCK IN PEKING - TOKYO - MOSCOW RELATIONS -- SIMPLE WORLD "HEGEMONY" THAT CHINESE INSIST ON INCLUDING IN JAPAN-CHINA UNCLASSIFIED

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FRIENDSHIP TREATY AND SOVIETS FIND "PARTICULARLY OBJECTIONABLE; CITES "QUALIFIED DIPLOMATIC SOURCES" THAT JAPAN MADE HARD DECISION CANNOT YIELD TO CHINESE DEMAND (USIA WIRELESS FILE).

10. CHINA

WSTAR (5/17) CARRIES AP REPORT ON US TRACK TEAM. SIZE
OF AMERICANS "AWES" CHINESE. NYT (5/17) CARRIES UPI
STORY ON WARM WELCOME. BALT SUN'S WU (5/19) SAYS
EMPHASIS IN MEETS IS ON FRIENDSHIP AND DESCRIBES
KWANGCHOW AUDIENCE REMAINING IN SEATS DURING RAINSTORM.
BOST GLOBE, WPOST, PHINQ (5/19) CARRY AP DISPATCH
DESCRIBING FIRST MEET, AMERICAN VICTORIES AND KEEN
CHINESE AUDIENCE INTEREST.

CSM CARRIES REWRITE OF BURNS STORY ATTRIBUTED TO "MANY DIPLOMATS" SAYING CHINESE LEADERS PROBABLY RELIEVED TO SEE SWIFT RESOLUTION OF MAYAGUEZ AFFAIR. NYT (5/17) REPORTS FROM ROME SPLIT AMONG OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS ON CHIREP. IOC TO MEET NEXT WEEK IN LAUSANNE TO DECIDE.

SUN (MOSCOW) REPORTS SOVIET FEARFUL BEING OUTFLANKED BY PRC; CONCERNED FRANCE S RECEPTION OF TEING HSIA0-PING MEANS PEKING-WEUROPE UNDERGOING MORNING RELATIONS.

11. KOREA

NOYES (WSTAR 5/18) VIEWS RECENT DEPLORABLE EVENTS IN SK

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AS YET ANOTHER DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF INDOCHINA TRAGEDY AND ROLE PLAYED THERE BY US. MUCH AS DEPLORES PARK'S REPRESSIVE DECREES, CONCEDES HE HAS MUCH TO WORRY ABOUT, SUCH AS HOW CONGRESS MIGHT VOTE TO CONTINUE FIGHTING OFF POSSIBLE ATTACK AFTER EXPIRATION OF 60-DAY PERIOD SPECIFIED BY WAR POWERS ACT (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

FINNEY (NYT 5/18) STATES SECDEF SOUNDED NEW POLICY EMPHASIS WITH WARNING WOULD BE "PARTICULARLY INOPPORTUNE" UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSIDER MAJOR REDUCTION US TROOP STRENGTH IN SK AND PRES STATED AIM OF TYING SK, US MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER TO REASSURE JAPAN. BELIEVES POLITICAL, OR MILITARY, UPHEAVAL IN KOREA WOULD LEAD TO INSECURITY, AND CREATE THREAT THAT JAPAN, WHICH NOW DEPENDENT ON US FOR DEFENSE, MIGHT RISE UP AGAIN AS MILITARIST POWER IN ASIA (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). INGERSOLL

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE Subject: n/a

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US To: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

DEPT OF THE TREASURY

GOVGUAM MOSCOW

HONG KONG INFO COMUSSAGE

CINCPAC

COMDT COAST GUARD
BUDAPEST BY POUCH
XMT SUVA
RANGOON
Type: TE
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